

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 11131 061739Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----072969 061743Z /46

O R 061631Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5860
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T LONDON 11131

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK
SUBJECT: RHODESIA

REFERENCE: STATE 155414

1. EMBASSY OFFICER JULY 6 DISCUSSED OWEN'S TIMETABLE FOR A RHODESIA SETTLEMENT WITH PHILIP MANSFIELD. MANSFIELD TOOK NOTE OF LOW'S SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP'S PRESENT SCHEDULE, AND SAID HE PERSONALLY AGREES THAT A MORE MEASURED APPROACH WILL LIKELY PROVE MORE EFFECTIVE. IN ANY EVENT, THE PATRIOTIC FRONT'S NO-SHOW IN LUSAKA HAS ALREADY SQUEEZED THE SCHEDULE FOR GRAHAM AND LOW. IT NOW SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT GRAHAM COULD RETURN TO LONDON ON JULY 9 EVEN IF THAT WERE DESIRABLE.

2. THE PROPOSED TIMING OF OWEN'S TRIP IS ALSO SLIPPING, MANSFIELD SAID. THE MINISTERIAL SUB-GROUP WORKING ON
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THE RHODESIA SETTLEMENT PACKAGE HAS REACHED NO FIRM CONCLUSIONS. OWEN FACES THE WHOLE CABINET THIS FRIDAY AND WILL SURELY RUN INTO STIFFER OPPOSITION TO HIS IDEAS. AN AFRICAN TRIP BY OWEN COULD NOT BE UNDERTAKEN UNTIL FULL MINISTERIAL APPROVAL HAS BEEN SECURED. MANSFIELD ALSO ACCEPTED THE SUGGESTION THAT OWEN'S EVENTUAL TRIP BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE CLOSER CONSULTATION WITH THE

NATIONALISTS AND THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS.

3. MANSFIELD SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT A VANCE-OWEN PHONE CONVERSATION THIS MORNING ON ANOTHER SUBJECT HAD ALSO MENTIONED RHODESIA, AND THAT OWEN HAS TENTATIVELY AGREED TO VISIT WASHINGTON BEGINNING JULY 23. DEPARTMENT PLEASE CONFIRM.

4. MANSFIELD WILL CONVEY OUR SCHEDULE CONCERNS TO THE FOREIGN SECRETARY.

BREWSTER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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